

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A swage mount for a recording head suspension comprising:
a flange;
a hub ~~made of a base metal~~ extending from the flange and having an outer surface comprising a base metal, the hub having at least one surface protrusion protruding from the outer surface of the base metal, the at least one surface protrusion comprising a protrusion material that is different from and harder than the base metal;
at least the outer surface of the base metal being plated with a first metal plating that has a thickness ranging from that is at least two fifths of the height of the at least one surface protrusion to but no more than twice the height of the at least one surface protrusion.
2. (Original) The swage mount of claim 1 wherein the surface roughness, Ra, of the first metal plating is at least 5% of the thickness of the first metal plating.
3. (Original) The swage mount of claim 1 wherein the first metal plating is harder than the base metal by at least 5 Vickers hardness numbers.
4. (Original) The swage mount of claim 1 comprising a second metal plating, applied over the first metal plating.
5. (Original) The swage mount of claim 1 wherein the first metal plating has a thickness in the range 0.01 to 9 microns.
6. (Currently amended) The swage mount of claim 1 wherein the first metal plating has a thickness in the range 0.2 to 20 microns 0.02 to 40 microns.
7. (Previously presented) The swage mount of claim 1 wherein the first metal plating has a columnar structure.
8. (Currently amended) The swage mount of claim 1 -4 wherein the ~~first metal plating~~ protrusion material comprises a material selected from the group consisting of chromium carbide and chromium nitride.

9. (Currently amended) The swage mount of claim ~~3~~ 1 wherein the base metal comprises stainless steel and the first metal plating comprises nickel.

10. (Currently amended) A The swage mount of claim 4 for a recording head suspension comprising:

a flange;

a hub extending from the flange and having an outer surface comprising a base metal, the hub having at least one surface protrusion protruding from the outer surface of the base metal, the at least one surface protrusion comprising a protrusion material that is different from and harder than the base metal;

at least the outer surface of the base metal being plated with a first metal plating that has a thickness that is at least two fifths of the height of the at least one surface protrusion but no more than twice the height of the at least one surface protrusion, the swage mount further comprising a second metal plating over the first metal plating, wherein the second metal plating is harder and thinner than the first metal plating.

11. (Currently amended) The swage mount of claim ~~4~~ 10 wherein the ~~second~~ first metal plating comprises a material selected from the group consisting of ~~rhodium, platinum,~~ cadmium, chromium, tungsten, and nickel.

12 - 27. (Canceled)

28. (New) The swage mount of claim 10 wherein the second metal plating comprises a material selected from the group consisting of rhodium and platinum.

29. (New) The swage mount of claim 10 wherein the at least one surface protrusion is harder than the base metal by at least 50 Vickers hardness numbers.

30. (New) The swage mount of claim 10 wherein the first metal plating has a thickness in the range 0.05 to 50 microns.